

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 INT-05 /086 W

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R 270845Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4978

INFO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT LOUIS 0045

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR OVIP (KAUNDA, KENNETH) ZAMP

SUBJECT: ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO MAURITIUS

REF: LUSAKA 0131

1. PRESIDENT KENNETH KAUNDA OF ZAMBIA, ACCOMPANIED BY ENTOURAGE OF 50, ON OFFICIAL VISIT MAURITIUS JANUARY 21-23 ENROUTE INDIA AND SRI LANKA FOLLOWED VERY TIGHT SCHEDULE OF CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES FROM MOMENT OF ARRIVAL TO DEPARTURE. HE MET WITH THE CABINET, ADDRESSED THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, WAS GUEST OF HONOR AT A STATE BANQUET AND FORMAL DINNER BY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL, VISITED THE COOPERATIVE CENTRAL BANK AND THE INDUSTRIAL ZONE WHERE HE WAS SHOWN THE AMERICAN FIRM LITRONIX THAT MANUFACTURERS ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS.

2. IN VARIOUS SPEECHES, KAUNDA EXPLAINED ZAMBIAN "ONE-PARTY PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY", PRAISED GOM FOR SUPPORT OF THIRD WORLD POSITIONS, AND CONGRATULATED MAURITIUS FOR MAINTAINING ITS
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INDEPENDENCE IN THE INDIAN OCEAN IN SPITE OF SUPER POWERS RIVALRY

IN THE AREA. HE SAID THAT ZAMBIA HAD MUCH TO LEARN FROM THE SUCCESSFUL COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN MAURITIUS. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS AT DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE, KAUNDA SAID THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED A BROAD RANGE OF TOPICS (NOT SPECIFIED) WITH THE GOM, THAT RACIAL ISSUES IN RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA WOULD REQUIRE MUCH EFFORT AND TIME TO RESOLVE (ALTHOUGH HE SAID HE IS "HOPEFUL" AND THAT PROTECTIVE CARTELS FOR SUCH RAW MATERIAL AS COPPER WOULD BE MUCH HARDER TO ORGANIZE EFFECTIVELY THAN IN THE CASE OF OIL.

3. GOM MADE MAJOR EFFORT TO HONOR PRESIDENT KAUNDA. PORT LOUIS AND ROUTES TAKEN BY KAUNDA PARTY WERE DECKED OUT IN MILES OF BUNTING AND HUNDREDS OF ZAMBIAN FLAGS WHILE PACE OF CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES LEFT MAURITIAN OFFICIALS (NOT TO MENTION DIPLOMATIC CORPS HERE) EXHAUSTED BY END OF VISIT. MEDIA COVERAGE WAS EXTENSIVE AND HIGHLY LAUDATORY. RADIO/TV PROVIDED LIVE COVERAGE OF MOST EVENTS, A PRACTICE SELDOM FOLLOWED HERE. (ALTHOUGH ONLY INNUENDOS APPEARED IN PRESS, LOCAL REPORTERS WERE ANNOYED WITH GOM REFUSAL TO ALLOW INTERVIEWS WITH KAUNDA EXCEPT FOR A FEW BRIEF QUESTIONS AT AIRPORT UPON HIS DEPARTURE.) KAUNDA APPEARED GENUINELY TOUCHED BY HIS RECEPTION, SAYING THAT THE WARMTH THE PEOPLE OF MAURITIUS EXPRESSED TOWARD HIM AND HIS PARTY WENT FAR BEYOND THE USUAL WELCOME.

4. WE DOUBT KAUNDA HAD TIME TO HAVE CONFIDENTIAL TALKS WITH SOUTH AFRICANS SUGGESTED REFTEL AS HE WAS IN PUBLIC EYE VIRTUALLY ALL OF SHORT VISIT, AND WE UNAWARE THAT ANY SOUTH AFRICANS QUALIFIED TO REPRESENT THEIR GOVERNMENT ARE IN MAURITIUS AT THIS TIME.
MANHARD

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